



U.S. Pharmacopeia
The Standard of QualitySM

USP Drug Quality and Information Program

The United States Pharmacopeia's (USP) Drug Quality and Information (DQI) program provides technical assistance in drug quality assurance, develops and disseminates unbiased drug and therapeutic information, trains health care workers to better use medicines, and provides scientific evidence for health care decision making in developing countries.

USP DQI is supported by a cooperative agreement with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and USP. Currently, USP DQI works with related agencies in Nepal, Russia, Mozambique, Senegal, Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand, Laos, China, Kazakhstan and Romania.

Program Focus:

Drug Quality: USP DQI provides expertise in the field of drug quality by training staff at national drug quality laboratories, helping to establish drug quality surveillance networks and providing technical assistance in good manufacturing practices (GMPs).

Continuing Education: USP DQI Develops training programs with partner organizations in developing countries focusing on antimicrobial therapy and drug resistance.

Developing and Disseminating Evidence-Based Drug and Therapeutic Information: Drawing upon the authoritative USP Drug Information (DI) database and the expertise of USP's scientific volunteers, USP DQI develops targeted drug and therapeutic information materials for health care providers based on specific needs. In addition, it assists in establishing and equipping local drug information centers by working with local academic, government, nongovernmental and professional institutions.

USP DQI's Worldwide Activities

Mekong Delta Region

The decreasing effectiveness of antimalarial drugs to treat malaria in this region of the world has prompted USAID, WHO, the Roll Back Malaria Initiative (RBM), and USP DQI to examine drug quality as a possible contributing factor to resistance. As a RBM partner, USP DQI focuses its efforts on improving the quality and quality control of antimalarial drugs, contributing to the long-term goal of increasing treatment efficacy, reducing drug resistance, and maximizing the use of health care resources for malaria.

Mozambique

USP DQI provides technical assistance and support to the Center for Drug Information (CiMed) at the University of Eduardo Mondlane.

Nepal

Since 1993, USP has worked to facilitate the creation and implementation of the Drug Information Network of Nepal (DINoN). Seven drug information centers (DICs) have been established and serve as a reliable source of objective drug information. Each center disseminates independent drug information to its unique constituency and acts as a referral point to the other members.

Romania

USP DQI works with the Iuliu Hatieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, where it is creating the first drug information center in the country. The services offered by the center will be targeted to physicians and pharmacists.

Russia

USP DQI's partner, Smolensk Medical Academy, has developed the first Internet-based distance learning program in Russia. The program provides continuing education in antimicrobial therapy to physicians and pharmacists.

Russian & NIS Drug Information Centers—The All-Russia Drug Information Network (ARDIN) was established to provide current, reliable drug and therapy information to health care professionals and patients in the Russian Federation. The network comprises nine Drug Information Centers (DICs) located in medical schools, hospitals and other institutions throughout the country.

Senegal

Since 1993, malaria has been the leading cause of mortality and morbidity in Senegal. USP DQI has provided an initial assessment of Senegal's antimalarial drug quality assurance program and continues to work with the country's government to improve its laboratory capacity and drug quality surveillance.